



**MELGHAT –YAWAL CORRIDOR
MARCH 2019**

Team: Kushagra Gupta - *Conservation Officer*
Anirudh Kawishwar - *Assistant Conservation Officer*

Highlights

- *Organized meeting with Sarpanch to form women's self-help groups (SHGs)*
- *Organized meetings with one SHG to provide information on government schemes*
- *Organized one meeting with villagers of Zari to provide information on livelihood options*
- *Conducted three nature education programs at Zari, Pingali and Bhingara - 58 students attended*

Livelihood and training activities:

Sr. no.	Date	Village / Place	Activity	Participants
01.	March 1	Zari	Meeting with Sarpanch for SHG	03
02.	March 2	Zari	Meeting with villagers to give information on Govt. schemes	06
03	March 4	Pingali	Meeting with president of Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Jan Van committee Mr. Bharasale for organizing sewing training for SHGs	02
04	March 5	Pingali	Meeting with Sarpanch for organizing sewing training for SHGs	04

On 1 March, Anirudh organized a meeting with Sarpanch Mr. Suratney to form a women's self-help (SHG) group in Zari village. During this meeting, Anirudh provided information on various government schemes aiming to provide livelihood assistance to women. He also provided ideas on starting micro-enterprises like paper bag making and mushroom cultivation.

Anirudh explained to the gathering that since a ban on the use of plastic bags in Maharashtra state, paper bags are in demand in the market and making and selling of paper bags will help the SHG members earn well. Anirudh explained that these types of micro-enterprises need relatively little financial inputs while the profits are good.

On 2 March, Anirudh and Mr. Surtaney met with six women and explained the concept and benefits of SHG formation.

On 4 March, Anirudh met with Mr. Bharasale, president of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Jan Van committee of Pingali village to discuss the organizing of a programme to train women in sewing and tailoring. Anirudh explained to Mr. Bharasale that thanks to this training, women from the village will be able to earn a steady income throughout the year. As many of these women are daily wage farm laborers, they fail to get employment during

summer season. Sewing and tailoring work can be done from their homes with little investment.

On 5 March, Mr. Bharasale introduced Anirudh to four women from the village who showed interest in the programme.

Education and awareness programs:

Sr. no.	Date	Village / Place	Activity	Participants
05	March 9	Pingali	Education and awareness programme conducted for school students on impact of forest fires	20
06	March 18	Pingali	Wildlife education program for students on World Sparrow Day	22
07	March 23	Bhingara	Education program conducted for school students on World Forest Day	16
			Total	63

On 9 March, Satpuda Foundation organized a film show and classroom awareness programme for students of Pingali village. During the session, Anirudh spoke to the students about wildlife conservation issues. 20 students of Zilla Parishad Upper Primary school attended the programme.

On 18 March, Satpuda Foundation organized a classroom education and awareness programme to celebrate World Sparrow Day in Zilla Parishad Upper Primary school in Pingali village. 22 students were present.

Anirudh made students aware about the sharp fall in the population of sparrows and how this is a cause of concern for humans. Anirudh explained to the students that climate change, human activities and degradation of habitat are some of the causes for the drop in sparrow population. He further explained that as birds are indicators of ecosystem health, this population dip indicates that our environment is in bad shape.

He urged students to put up box nests, bird feeders and water pots for not only sparrows but other birds as well during the summer season.

We organized a similar programme for students of Zilla Parishad Upper Primary school in Bhingara village on 23 March.



Anirudh conducting a nature education program in Pingali school (left) and Bhingara (right)